

**Abstract**

A method for controlling a device for the distribution and processing of video signals is proposed. The device has a number of inputs and outputs. Signal processing stages for processing the input signals can optionally be switched into the signal paths. The method according to the invention comprises the following steps: input signals are represented on a display with an input symbol. When common properties are present, the relevant input sources are assigned input symbols which have a common color property and/or graphical property. The relations between a specific input symbol and the assigned input signal and the relevant input are stored. An output of the device is assigned an output symbol, which represents the desired properties of the output signal in the same way as the input symbols represent the properties of the input signals. Finally, an output symbol is assigned to an input symbol, whereupon the relevant input is connected to the relevant output.